

in substance abuse over 15 years, while the rate for men declined by 5%. He distributed a handout about these treatment centers and introduced Valerie Fritz, President/CEO of Utah Alcoholism Foundation. This foundation runs the House of Hope. Ms. Fritz explained the program and distributed an information packet. She stated there are currently 473 women, 228 children, and 111 men being treated in their programs.

Several woman who are in various stages in the treatment program shared their stories of their substance abuse, their response to the treatment and their gratefulness for the opportunity to have the help and training to better their lives.

While returning to the Capitol, Co-Chair Christensen reminded subcommittee members of the open house being held in the East Building by the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities this afternoon and encouraged subcommittee members to attend.

Returned to the Capitol Complex at 4:55 p.m.

Minutes reported by Norda Shepard, Secretary

Sen. Allen Christensen, Committee Co-Chair

Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold, Committee Co-Chair

MINUTES OF THE
JOINT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 17, 2007 - 2:00 p.m.
On-Site Visits

Members Present: Sen. Allen Christensen, Committee Co-Chair
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold, Committee Co-Chair
Sen. Peter Knudson
Sen. Ross Romero
Rep. David Litvack
Rep. Roz McGee
Rep. Paul Neuenschwander
Rep. Paul Ray
Rep. Ken Sumsion

Members Excused: Sen. Chris Butters

Members Absent: Rep. Steve Urquhart

Staff Present: Debbie Headden, Fiscal Analyst
Norda Shepard, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: Dr. Pat Luedtke, Director, Utah State Public Health Laboratories
Dr. David M. Sundwall, Executive Director, Utah Department of Health
Dr. Todd C. Grey, State Medical Examiner
Brent Kelsey, Deputy Director, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Valerie Fritz, President/CEO, Utah Alcoholism Foundation

A copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Subcommittee members left the Capitol Complex at 2:15 p.m. for scheduled site visits. During transportation, Dr. Pat Luedtke, Director of State Public Health Laboratories, discussed the critical needs of the laboratories and distributed a handout outlining these needs. He also distributed a copy of the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report outlining the core functions and capabilities of the State Public Health Laboratories.

1. State Medical Examiner's Office

Dr. David N. Sundwall, Executive Director, Department of Health, met the subcommittee members at the State Medical Examiner's Office and introduced Dr. Todd Gray, State Medical Examiner, who conducted the tour of the facility. Dr. Gray explained the process of his office and answered subcommittee member's questions.

2. State Public Health Laboratories

Dr. Luedtke conducted the tour and explained the functions of the five different laboratories within the state facility, which are (1) Bioterrorism and chemical terrorism; (2) Disease outbreaks (both human and animal); (3) Forensic toxicology (e.g., legal blood alcohols, illicit drug testing and Medical Examiner testing); (4) Environmental services (e.g., air, water, soil, Superfund, and radioactive waste site monitoring); and (5) Newborn screening in which every newborn child in Utah is tested at birth for 36 inherited diseases.

3. House of Hope

Brent Kelsey, Deputy Director, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, explained that the House of Hope is a contracted substance abuse treatment center for women with children. He said there are four of these treatment centers around the state and more are needed as all have waiting lists. He said women have shown a 170% increase